



FREEDOM WATCH



June 29, 2002

Published in the interest of those serving in Operation Enduring Freedom

Bagram, Afghanistan

News briefs

(Compiled from
CNN.com)

Senate, House both pass defense bills

WASHINGTON — The House on Thursday passed a \$355 billion defense spending bill that includes a pay raise for military personnel and some of the biggest funding increases for the military in decades. It approves a 4.1 percent pay raise for all military personnel and a new incentive pay of up to \$1,500 per month to reward military members who agree to serve in difficult-to-fill assignments.

Key al Qaeda figure arrested in Indonesia

JAKARTA, Indonesia — Indonesian police have arrested an important al Qaeda figure, Asian and U.S. sources said Thursday. Omar al-Faruq, also known as Mahmoud bin Ahmad Assegaf, was arrested June 5. He is

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A pair of British runners take the first leg of the relay race during the early hours of Friday morning.

British hold first charity run from Bagram to Kabul

Story & photo by Sgt. Reeba Critser
28th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM AIR BASE, Afghanistan — At 4 a.m. Friday, when most people were still sleeping, 26 Brits of the 27 Squadron, Royal Air Force were stretching at Bagram Air Base, preparing to run Bagram's first charity relay race to Kabul.

"We've been doing fitness around Bagram," said Wes Wilson, a relay runner in the Royal Air Force

who came up with the idea. "The Americans did a 10k fun run, but that was in Bagram. We wanted to go to Kabul because it was the nearest military location."

Wilson's idea took three weeks to make it a reality. The 40-mile race was pieced into 14 legs, measuring at approximately six miles each. A pair of runners ran two legs.

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Polls indicate improved military approval rate

Compiled from Gallop
Poll data

In Gallop's annual confidence in institutions poll, the military again tops the list at 79 percent, up 13 points from last year and the greatest confidence registered in that poll since March 1991's 85 percent rating.

In another poll, 80 percent of respondents favor keeping U.S. troops in Afghanistan, but only 33 percent now believe the US and its allies are winning the war on terrorism (down from 66 percent in January) while 49 percent say "neither side" is winning.

Distance-learning pilot program ends in Europe

Army News Service

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. — A distance-learning pilot program for 163 noncommissioned officers ended last week in Europe.

Six pilot courses — three Advanced NCO

Courses and three Basic NCO Courses — were taught by video-tele-training to soldiers in Germany and Italy. The courses were offered by Army Reserve instructors from Jan. 13 to June 21 from a distance learning facility in Vilseck,

Germany.

While the financial savings are still being calculated, officials said they expect the savings to be considerable. They added that NCOs also reaped physical and psychological savings by not being required to

leave their units and families.

The courses were attended by both active and Reserve-component soldiers at digital training facilities in Vilseck, Mannheim, Hanau, and

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"We only had a little bit of training for the run," said Chris Wrightson, relay runner. "But the long run was worth the time."

It took them about five and half hours to complete the run.

"We were running straightway at 6,000 feet in the heat," said Daniel Baxter, also a relay runner. "It was hard. Heat and dust was the challenge in this run."

They ran to raise money for Achcia, an education fund for children in Kabul.

"We raised over \$1,000 to give to charity," said Squadron Leader Alex Smyth.

The change of scenery was one of the reasons why the Brits were excited to take on this run.

"Kids were running for a mile by us," Baxter said. "People were saying 'How are you?'"

"The (Afghan) people were friendly, and they were waving and cheering us on," Wilson added.

"This run gave us something to do, and the Afghans benefited from it through charity."



Photos by Sgt. Reeba Critser

Two Land Rovers, a five-ton truck and Chinook accompany the 26 runners to Kabul from Bagram Air Base. The race was a charity fun run to raise money for education in Kabul.



PILOT, from Page 1

Wuerzburg, Germany, and in Vincenza, Italy. Each course was scheduled for 12 consecutive, 12- to 16-hour days.

In this pilot, assistant instructors traveled to each participating facility to administer practical exercises, quizzes, and a final test.

"I watched the training in Vilseck ... and my assessment is very positive," said Command Sgt. Maj. Kenneth Preston of V Corps headquarters in Heidelberg, Germany. "The instruction was the same quality as sitting in a classroom at one of the proponent schools. The interaction between students in the classroom in the small group setting was excellent and the distance learning site manager

and assistant instructors were very good at working the practical exercises."

One NCO who completed the ANCOC course in Wuerzburg provided an illustration of near-term and long-term benefits that distance learning offers the soldier who remains closer to home. "My wife was expecting," said Staff Sgt. Gus McKinney. "VTT training let me take care of things at home while still going to class."

The VTT also made a big difference to a colleague of McKinney's who was hospitalized during the training - "it allowed the soldier to have his family close at hand" during a time of need, McKinney said.

McKinney thinks there are other benefits. A large "study

hall" block provided a place to use a computer and finish assignments without distraction, he said. And he added that taking the training closer to home station allowed the students to submit Noncommissioned Officer Evaluation Reports on time.

VTT permitted instructors and soldiers to interact in real-time. The instructor was continuously shown on one of two monitors at each facility. Then, when a soldier asked a question or interacted with the instructor, they activated a microphone, a camera zoomed to the soldier, and the soldier was shown on the second monitor.

The pilot was a cooperative effort between U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, which provided the courseware

and Project Manager, The Army Distance Learning Program, which oversaw the facilities and the hardware.

Also, each facility has a TADLP site manager to maintain the equipment. In the event of equipment failure-which has never occurred in any TADLP facility-the assistant instructors could teach the class as a traditional resident class.

In the near-term, soldiers will continue to take Phase II of ANCOC and BNCOC by traveling to the U.S. for resident training at proponent schools. In the future, some officials say soldiers might just be able to take training in their very own foxhole.

(Editor's note: Information provided by the Program Executive Office, Enterprise Information Systems, Fort Belvoir, Va.)

HIND SIGHT

1613

Shakespeare's Globe Theater burns down

1916

Boeing aircraft flies for first time

1956

Federal interstate highway system act signed

1963

Beatles' first song "From Me to You" hits the UK charts

1964

First draft of Star Trek's pilot
"The Cage" released

News Briefs

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a Kuwait national and sources in Washington said he was a "significant" fund-raiser for the terrorist group, but "not in the top 20" of the al Qaeda leadership.

Pakistan turns the heat on terrorists

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Pakistani police have arrested three more suspects in connection with recent attacks on Western targets, as they continue in their investigation into two bombings that claimed a total of 26 lives.

Russia joins G8 top table

KANANASKIS, Canada — Russia has been rewarded with a seat at the world's top table for showing "remarkable economic and democratic transformation." The former Soviet state will become a full member of the Group of Eight industrialised nations after a decade of part-time status. It has also been invited to host its first G8 summit in 2006.

Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER REPORT:

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Sunday</u>
<u>Bagram:</u>	Showers	Thunderstorms
	H: 99F L: 66F	H: 97F L: 68F
<u>Kandahar:</u>	Haze	Haze
	H: 109F L: 72F	H: 109F L: 72F
<u>Kabul:</u>	Showers	Thunderstorms
	H: 93F L: 59F	H: 91F L: 61F
<u>Uzbekistan:</u>	Clear	Clear
	H: 98F L: 51F	H: 97F L: 50F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

FREEDOM WATCH

Freedom Watch falls under the supervision of the Combined Joint Task Force - 180.

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Got a story idea? Visit the 28th Public Affairs Detachment on the second floor of Motel 6, or call 640-8000.

Check out *Freedom Watch* online at www.centcom.mil/operations/CJTF%20180/cjtf180.htm

COALITION SPORTSZONE

The Day in Sports

Serena, Capriati advance; Roddick falls

Serena Williams survived a brutal third-round matchup against Els Callens 7-6(5), 7-6(2). Serena, who won last month's French Open, had trouble with her feet as the Belgian qualifier pushed her all the way.

Capriati, ranked number-three in the world, cruised past Czech Daja Bedanova 6-4, 6-2 to advance to the fourth round. Greg Rusedski beat American Andy Roddick, 6-3, 6-4, 6-2 in a third round matchup.

S. Korea faces Turkey for third place

South Korea and Turkey, teams that no one considered a threat in the 2002 World Cup, will battle for a miracle third-place finish today.

Brazil faces Germany for the championship Sunday.

Chambers upsets Greene in men's 100

Dwain Chambers ran the race of his life to upstage Maurice Greene in the men's 100 meters at the Bislett Games.

Greene, the world-record holder, rocketed out of the blocks and seized the early lead, but the Olympic and world champion couldn't hold off Chambers and lost by one-hundredth of a second.

Chambers, of Britain, won the race in a relatively slow 10.05 seconds. Greene finished third with 10.10 at Bislett Stadium, one of the world's most famous track venues, where 62 world records have been broken since 1924.

Hall shoots 65 for lead in U.S. Senior Open

Walter Hall shot a 6-under-par 65 to take a one-stroke lead over Tom Kite and Jose Maria Canizares at the midway point of the \$2.5 million tournament.

2002 World Cup First Round Standings

Group A

x-Denmark	2-0-1	7
y-Senegal	1-0-2	5
Uruguay	0-1-2	2
France	0-2-1	1

Group E

x-Germany	2-0-1	7
y-Ireland	1-0-2	5
Cameroon	1-1-1	4
Saudi Arabia	0-3-0	0

Group B

x-Spain	3-0-0	9
y-Paraguay	1-1-1	4
South Africa	1-1-1	4
Slovenia	0-3-0	0

Group F

x-Sweden	1-0-2	5
y-England	1-0-2	5
Argentina	1-1-1	4
Nigeria	0-2-1	1

Group C

x-Brazil	3-0-0	9
y-Turkey	1-1-1	4
Costa Rica	1-1-1	4
China	0-3-0	0

Group G

x-Mexico	2-0-1	7
y-Italy	1-1-1	4
Croatia	1-2-0	3
Ecuador	1-2-0	3

Group D

x-South Korea	2-0-1	7
y-United States	1-1-1	4
Portugal	1-2-0	3
Poland	1-2-0	3

Group H

x-Japan	2-0-1	7
y-Belgium	1-0-2	5
Russia	1-2-0	3
Tunisia	0-2-1	1

World Cup second round schedule

Germany 1-0 Paraguay

England 3-0 Denmark

Senegal 2-1, OT, Sweden

Spain 1-1 Ireland (Spain advances 3-2 PKs)

United States 2-0 Mexico

Brazil 2-0 Belgium

Turkey 1-0 Japan

South Korea 2-1, OT, Italy

World Cup quarterfinals

Germany 1-0 United States

Brazil 1-0 England

Turkey 1-0, OT, Senegal

South Korea 0-0 Spain (S. Korea wins 5-3 in PKs)

World Cup semifinals

Germany 1-0 South Korea

Brazil 1-0 Turkey

World Cup Final @ Yokohama, Japan

July 4th 5K run

Iron Rakkasan will host an Independence Day 5k Run at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan.

The entry fee is \$10, which includes a T-shirt.

To sign up, visit the 3rd Battalion, 187th Infantry Regiment S-4 shop; any 3rd Bn., 187th Infantry Company headquarters in Viper City; the mayor's office in Motel 6; or at the SSA.

For more information, call Capt. Christian Teutsch at 640-1116.